

## Logan Location Safety Notes



September 1994

## **Training Opportunities**

**Laboratory Safety Seminar** 

All new personnel who anticipate laboratory work with chemicals must attend a lab safety seminar. Advanced registration is required; call the USU Environmental Health & Safety Office at 797-2892 or 797-2752 to register.

Topics covered in the seminar include principals of laboratory hygiene and safety, material safety data sheets (MSDS), spill response, lab hoods, handling hazardous waste, radiation safety, fire safety, and fire extinguisher use. Since USU is offering this training, and we are USDA, there may be a small (\$2) charge per person. Breaks are provided; lunch is on your own.

Sept. 22, Thursday, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm, Eccles Conference Center, Rooms-307-309

Oct. 1, Saturday, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm, University Inn, Room 507

Oct. 4 & 6, Tuesday & Thursday, 1:00 - 4:30 pm each day, University Inn, Rm 507

Refresher Laboratory Safety Training is also offered by USU. Once you have received the Laboratory Safety Training, you must have refresher training at least annually. This training reviews the seven-hour training

you originally received and includes any changes in the OSHA Laboratory Standard that may affect you. Advanced registration is required; call the EH&S Office numbers listed above. These sessions are over the noon hour; bring a sack lunch if you wish.

Oct. 12, Wednesday, noon - 1:30 pm

Oct. 13, Thursday, noon - 1:30 pm

Other training available includes:

Tackling Environmental Issues in Utah, Oct. 13, Salt Lake Hilton

Chemical Mixtures and Quantitative Risk Assessment, Nov. 7-10, Research Triangle Park, NC

OSHA Training Institute, Des Plaines, IL

Contact Terrie (752-2941) for more information on these training sessions.

The Utah State Department of Health has developed a packet of information on the hantavirus. Copies have been distributed to each lab and were posted (or were supposed to be!) on the bulletin boards. If you are unable to find a copy to read, please contact me

(Terrie) and I'll get a copy of the information sent to you.

NIOSH (National Institute for Occupational Safety Health) has released a Request for Assistance in Preventing Organic Dust Toxic Syndrome (ODTS). This syndrome results in acute respiratory illness in agricultural workers who inhale contaminated organic dust. ODTS typically occurs when a large amount of organic dust is present in the air. Examples include moving grain from poorly ventilated storage bins, unloading silos, and shoveling wood chips or leaves from trailers. of this alert have been made and will be posted on the bulletin boards in each lab.



OSHA has issued a new rule for PPE (Personal Protective Equipment), effective July 5, 1994. Employers are given until January 1, 1995, to comply with this rule. Following is a summary of changes (29 CFR 1910.132 - 1910.138 and appendices):

- ◆ The employer (supervisor) must conduct an assessment of hazards in the work place to select appropriate PPE for the work being done and certify that this assessment has been completed.
- ◆ Training must be provided to the employees on identifying the situations when PPE is necessary and the proper use, care, and maintenance of PPE.
- The employer must certify that this training was provided to each employee; retraining must be provided as necessary.

- The standard specifies that PPE fit properly and damaged or defective equipment not be worn.
- More stringent design, selection, and use requirements for some PPE have been set.
- Existing stocks of PPE can be used so long as it was purchased prior to July 5, 1994.

So, what does this mean for us? It means that each supervisor must review procedures used in his/her research for possible chemical or physical hazards. Each must determine what protective equipment or clothing is needed (if any), then provide this information to each technician, RSA student, grad student, etc. under his/her supervision. The hazard assessment and the PPE training must both be documented. This documentation must indicate the work place evaluated, the person certifying that the evaluation was performed, the date of the assessment, and that it is a certification of hazard assessment. The documentation for PPE training must include the name of each employee trained, the date of the training, and the subject of training.

Ideally, this hazard assessment and PPE training is already taking place. All that is needed is documentation that the supervisor has determined what PPE is necessary for the job (hazard assessment) and has discussed with the technician what PPE is needed, proper use and maintenance of the PPE, and that the PPE fits properly (PPE training). Copies of the complete standard are available from each Location Safety Committee Member (Terrie, PPRL; Carolyn J., Kevin, Jerry, and John, FRRL; and Glen, Bee Lab). In addition, a copy is posted on the bulletin board in each lab. I also have a good deal of supplementary information on PPE if you have any questions, and I would be glad to help you in this area.

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If you have questions or comments about any safety concerns, please call me (Terrie Wierenga) at 752-2941.